

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Young (U.S. 6,567,011). It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Young discloses a method for testing a remote control transmitter. In Young, a test signal is generated by the remote control transmitter after each button is pressed. At column 8, line 54, it is stated:

Once entered, every key will product a unique IR data output.

This is different than the present invention. In the present invention, a test signal is not transmitted until all of the buttons being tested have been depressed. Thus, Applicants claim 1 recited the feature of:

...store indications of ,closing of said contacts for testing of said keys...

...transfer said indications to said transmission circuit by delaying transfer of said indications until said testing is completed.

Note that the claim explicitly recites that testing is performed on keys (plural). This is supported by the originally filed application at page 7, line 15. No new matter has been added.

As the above feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Claim 9 is newly added except that the word "closed" has been broadened into the word "activated." Claim 10 is a method claim corresponding to claim 9.

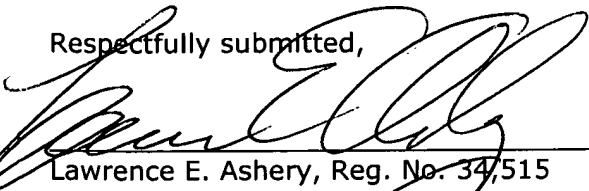
Remaining claims are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claim 1.

Appln. No.: 09/937,255
Amendment Dated: February 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of: December 22, 2004

MAT-8164US

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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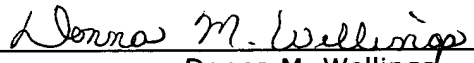
LEA/ds/dmw

Dated: February 18, 2005, 2005

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 18, 2005.


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